

SB 130 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 1/30, 3/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Permits school nurse associated with school-based health center to engage in the practice of telehealth. Defines "telehealth." Directs State Board of Education, in consultation with the Oregon State Board of Nursing to adopt rules related to the practice of telehealth. Takes effect on ninety-first day following adjournment sine die.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Senate Bill 698 (2015)
- Use of grant funds
- School nurse responsibilities and benefits

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 Replaces measure. Requires the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to award grants to eligible school-based health center (SBHC) pilot projects to expand student access to mental and physical health care services and to improve the health and education outcomes of students through the use of telehealth. Defines grant eligibility criteria and authorized use of grant funds. Defines "distant site," "originating site," "school nurse," and "telehealth." Requires pilot project SBHCs to report to OHA on effectiveness of pilots. Requires OHA to establish a process to evaluate pilot projects on specified criteria. Appropriates \$950,000 to OHA for purposes of carrying out pilot project grants. Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

BACKGROUND:

School-Based Health Centers (SBHCs) are medical clinics located either in a school or on school grounds that offer children and youth physical, mental and preventative health services. They have existed in Oregon since 1986 as public-private partnerships between the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Public Health Division, county public health departments, public and private health practitioners, tribes, parents, students, and community members. SBHCs are staffed by a primary care professional and offer access to health services for all students, regardless of insurance status. As of 2017, Oregon had 78 SBHCs, offering access to health services for over 64,000 children.

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) defines telehealth as "the the use of electronic information and telecommunications technologies to support and promote long-distance clinical health care, patient and professional health-related education, public health and health administration." Telehealth technologies include videoconferencing, the internet, store-and-forward imaging, streaming media, and terrestrial and wireless communications.

Senate Bill 130 would allow school nurses associated with SBHCs to engage in the practice of telehealth.